

To such magnificent places,
 all of us you have taken . . .
 With your life's trajectories . . .
 your life's paths,
 as up to the heavens like a comet's tail so
 streaking past!
 To all of those new frontiers,
 that which you have so opened up so up here!
 That which now so lies before us all so very
 clear!
 As the possibilities seem so endless now,
 so here!
 For as long as we have such fine sons,
 of such courage and faith as all of these ones!
 Americans,
 who in the name of exploration so shine like
 the sun!
 Who,
 against all odds . . .
 almost like God's, will so courageously soar
 . . .
 To distant worlds, and shores . . .
 To find the answers to so explore . . .
 Then, the sky has no limit anymore . . .
 to such new frontiers as you soar . . .
 So on this day as we place!
 These gold medals,
 around each one of your most courageous
 face!
 History for you now so holds your place . . .
 As something that time,
 nor so distance . . .
 can now so erase . . .
 For as long as we have such bold woman and
 men . . .
 Who so dare to dream, so then!
 And go out towards Exploration's most far-
 thest ends . . .
 Then, we shall all go so forth Godspeed to
 command!
 To Such New Frontiers, my friend.

**EDEN PRAIRIE HIGH SCHOOL
 GIRLS VOLLEYBALL WINS STATE
 CHAMPIONSHIP**

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Eden Prairie Eagles for winning their first ever Minnesota AAA High School Girls Volleyball Championship on Saturday.

The Eden Prairie Eagles came out strong and played with all their hearts from the very first serve of the match in a hard fought and thrilling five-game series.

The Eagles ultimately surged ahead to take the final game 22-20 and win the Championship.

The Eden Prairie Eagles have shown what it truly means to be student-athletes. Having exuded remarkable dedication and a strong work ethic that our entire community can be proud of, it is my pleasure to congratulate them all on an inspiring season and victory.

Go Eagles!

**CONGRATULATIONS TO ERNEST
 LOVATO**

HON. BEN RAY LUJÁN

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. LUJÁN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Ernest Lovato, a resident of Kewa Pueblo, formerly Santo Domingo Pueblo, New

Mexico for being awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degree from Bacone College on May 7, 2011.

Mr. Lovato was nominated by Dr. Robert J. Duncan, Jr., President and Professor of Religion, as a 1957 Bacone Alum, 1982–1984 Bacone Trustee and for his services as former Governor of Kewa Pueblo. Ernest has been outstandingly active in his community and served as Governor of Kewa Pueblo in 1989, 1990, and 2002.

Bacone College is a private four-year liberal arts college in Muskogee, Oklahoma and was founded in 1880 as an Indian University by Professor Almon C. Bacone, a missionary teacher. With the help of the American Baptist Home Mission Society in the Cherokee Baptist Mission at the Tahlequah, Indian Territory, Bacone College was established.

Bacone College has strong historic ties to various tribal nations including the Cherokee Nation and the Muscogee Creek Nation. When the College started Professor Bacone enrolled three students and was the sole faculty member. By the end of the first semester he had twelve students, and by the end of the first year the student population was fifty-six and the faculty numbered three.

Bacone College continued to grow, relocated to its present location in 1885 and now serves over nine hundred students.

I want to extend congratulations and recognition to Mr. Ernest Lovato, an outstanding New Mexican, on being awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degree from Bacone College.

**TRIBUTE TO THE NATIVITY OF
 OUR LORD CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the Nativity of Our Lord Catholic School in Warminster, Pennsylvania for receiving the 2011 National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence Award. In 1982, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program was launched by the U.S. Department of Education in an effort to identify the best school leadership and teaching practices in America. Today, the National Blue Ribbon Schools Program recognizes both public and non-public schools where students and faculty excel. As one of only fourteen schools in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to receive this award, it is certainly a testament to the quality of education that the Nativity of Our Lord Catholic School provides.

An educated workforce is the backbone of a strong economy and a prosperous society. Therefore, it is essential that we equip our students with the tools they need to become successful employers and employees in the future. The Nativity of Our Lord Catholic School is a model of the type of excellence that all schools should aspire to. It is an institution that prepares our children to be future leaders and scholars, and I am proud to honor it today.

I am extremely grateful of the hard work and dedication of the administrators, faculty, students, and parents who are involved with the Nativity of Our Lord Catholic School. A few in-

dividuals that I would like to personally recognize are Father Angelo R. Citino, Principal Roselee Maddaloni, and Vice Principal Laura Clark, for their continued efforts in providing an environment for excellence.

Congratulations once again to the Nativity of Our Lord Catholic School for winning the National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence Award. Thank you for all that you do for the Bucks County community, it is an honor to be your representative in the United States Congress.

**EDEN PRAIRIE HIGH SCHOOL BOYS
 SOCCER WINS STATE CHAMPIONSHIP**

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize this year's Minnesota AA High School Boys Soccer Champions, the Eden Prairie Eagles. Aside from having one of the best academic programs in Minnesota, the Eden Prairie School District is now home to boys state soccer champions for the second time since 2002.

Despite going up against an undefeated team, the Eagles struck early, scoring their first goal in the fourth minute of the championship game. The Eden Prairie Eagles kept up the pressure, and were relentless on offense, putting up 14 shots on goal and winning the game 3-1.

Congratulations to the whole team on an incredible season, I'm sure you will all look back proudly on your accomplishments in the years to come. Congratulations also to coach Vince Thomas for his leadership on and off the field.

Go Eagles!

**HONORING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY
 OF THE CLOSE-UP FOUNDATION**

HON. JAMES LANKFORD

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. LANKFORD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of the Close-Up Foundation on their 40th Anniversary. Since 1971, Close Up has educated over 750,000 students and teachers in the democratic process through their Washington-based civic education programs and classroom publications.

Close-Up provides students and teachers from diverse backgrounds all over the country with the opportunity to use the institutions and historical sites of our nation's capital as a backdrop for their lectures, small group discussions, and interactions with key policy experts. The programs are designed to enrich students' knowledge of the basic concepts and institutions of American constitutional government and develop a practical understanding of the processes of the democratic political system and the role of its citizens. They leave each student with a better understanding of the complex policy issues that surround our country every day.

As a 10th grader on my first trip to Washington, D.C. with the Close-Up Foundation, I

had an opportunity to experience the benefits of the program firsthand. The inner workings of democracy and the legislative process fascinated me. The information and education I received during my visit as a student provided me with the foundation to be an active member of my community and engage in the civics process.

I rise today in appreciation of the Close-Up foundation on their 40th Anniversary and thank them for the opportunity they have provided to hundreds of thousands of students from across our great nation. I look forward to meeting with the many more students that will visit our nation's capitol in the future.

HONORING MARRAKECH, INC. ON
ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand today to join the many who have gathered to celebrate the 40th anniversary of Marrakech, Inc., a wonderful organization dedicated to providing an array of services to persons with disabilities. This is a remarkable milestone for this very special organization.

Marrakech was founded in 1971 with the establishment of the first halfway house in Connecticut for women with mental retardation. What began as a pilot program has grown into a respected organization and recognized leader in the development of innovative programs and services for people with challenging behaviors, families with complex needs, youth who are at risk, and people without disabilities who are unemployed and underemployed.

Marrakech, Inc. began as a crusade to prove a point, the brainchild of two young Yale undergraduates, Susan Waisbren and Francie Brody. It was all because of a young woman named Valerie Chain who Susan had met through Yale Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Susan and Francie came to know Valerie's friends as well. They soon realized how capable these young New Haven women with mild mental retardation were, and how they would thrive in a halfway house. Thus began their mission of creating an environment which would highlight the talents of these women and promoted their ability to self direct their lives. Marrakech House opened as a summer pilot program and

eight young women, including Valerie, spent the summer in a sublet, supervised apartment on Crown Street. Forty years later, Marrakech, Inc. subscribes to a practice that assures that each person who is referred for services has a highly individualized service plan.

One of Marrakech, Inc.'s goals has always been normalization, achieving a level of independence that would allow all people to become more a part of the community. Susan once said, "Normalization does not mean merely adjusting to society's norms. It means educating the community to expand its definition of 'normal.'" Yet, after the first summer of Marrakech, she added, "We never really wanted normalization. We wanted something better. Too often, normalcy in our society means conformity and compromise. We strove for consciousness, tolerance, and imagination."

In its forty year history, Marrakech has transformed the lives of thousands. For all of the good work that they are doing in our community and in the lives of their clients, I am proud to rise today to extend my sincere congratulations to Marrakech, Inc. on their 40th anniversary. I have no doubt that this extraordinary organization will only continue to enjoy great success in all of their endeavors on behalf of our community.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. JEANNE
M. FOX

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 15, 2011

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Jeanne M. Fox, Commissioner at New Jersey Board of Public Utilities. Ms. Fox is the recipient of The Arthur E. Armitage, Sr. Distinguished Alumni Award, presented by the Rutgers School of Law-Camden Alumni Association. The award will be presented at the Distinguished Alumni Awards Celebration. Her continuous outpouring of service and dedication to the residents of New Jersey is undoubtedly worth of this body's recognition.

Jeanne Fox was first appointed to the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) on January 15, 2002, and was later reconfirmed for a second term on March 16, 2009. She currently holds the prestigious title of Commissioner and has previously served as NJBPU

President. NJBPU has regulatory jurisdiction over telephone, electric, gas, water, wastewater and cable television companies. Through her role at NJBPU, Ms. Fox has worked to ensure that consumers have access to safe and reliable services at reasonable rates. Under Commissioner Fox's leadership, the NJBPU became a leader among states in developing clean energy policies and promoting renewable energy and energy efficiency. Prior to her appointment to NJBPU, Ms. Fox served as a Regional Administrator of the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) as Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection and Energy. She also remains an active member with various organizations, including the National Association of Regulatory Utility commissioners (NARUC) as a member of the Board of Directors, Chair of the Committee on Energy Resources and the Environment and member of the electric Power Research Institute's Public Advisory Council on Smart Grid.

Jeanne Fox graduated cum laude from Douglass College, Rutgers University, and received a Juris Doctor from the Rutgers University School of Law-Camden, where she was a classmate and a close personal friend of mine. Since graduation, Ms. Fox has remained an engaged member of the Rutgers University Alumni Federation, the Associate alumnae of Douglass College and a Rutgers University alumni Trustee for two terms. She currently serves on the boards of the Girl Scouts of Central and Southern New Jersey and has served as President of the National Women's Political Caucus. Ms. Fox remains a valued member of the Women's Political Caucus of New Jersey Executive Board, providing valuable experience as its past President. The organization remains dedicated to increasing women's participating in the political process and increasing the number of progressive women in elected and appointed office. Jeanne's exceptional record of service and leadership continues to resonate with constituents throughout New Jersey.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in congratulating Jeanne Fox upon receiving The Arthur E. Armitage, Sr. Distinguished Alumni Award presented by the Rutgers School of Law-Camden Alumni Association. Her unyielding leadership and contributions has proven beneficial to residents of my district and throughout New Jersey.